

11

U.S. History
History-Social
Science Standard
11.11.5.



Many Voices, Many Visions: Analyzing Contemporary Environmental Issues

California Education and the Environment Initiative

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The Education and the Environment Curriculum is a cooperative endeavor of the following entities:

California Environmental Protection Agency
California Natural Resources Agency
Office of the Secretary of Education
California State Board of Education
California Department of Education
California Integrated Waste Management Board

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Key Partners:

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Lesson 1 Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

1	Factors in Decision Making	2
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Lesson 2 Our Public Lands: Conserving Resources and Preserving Natural Systems

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 3 Our Public Lands: Assessing Costs and Benefits

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Lesson 4 Roots of Controversy

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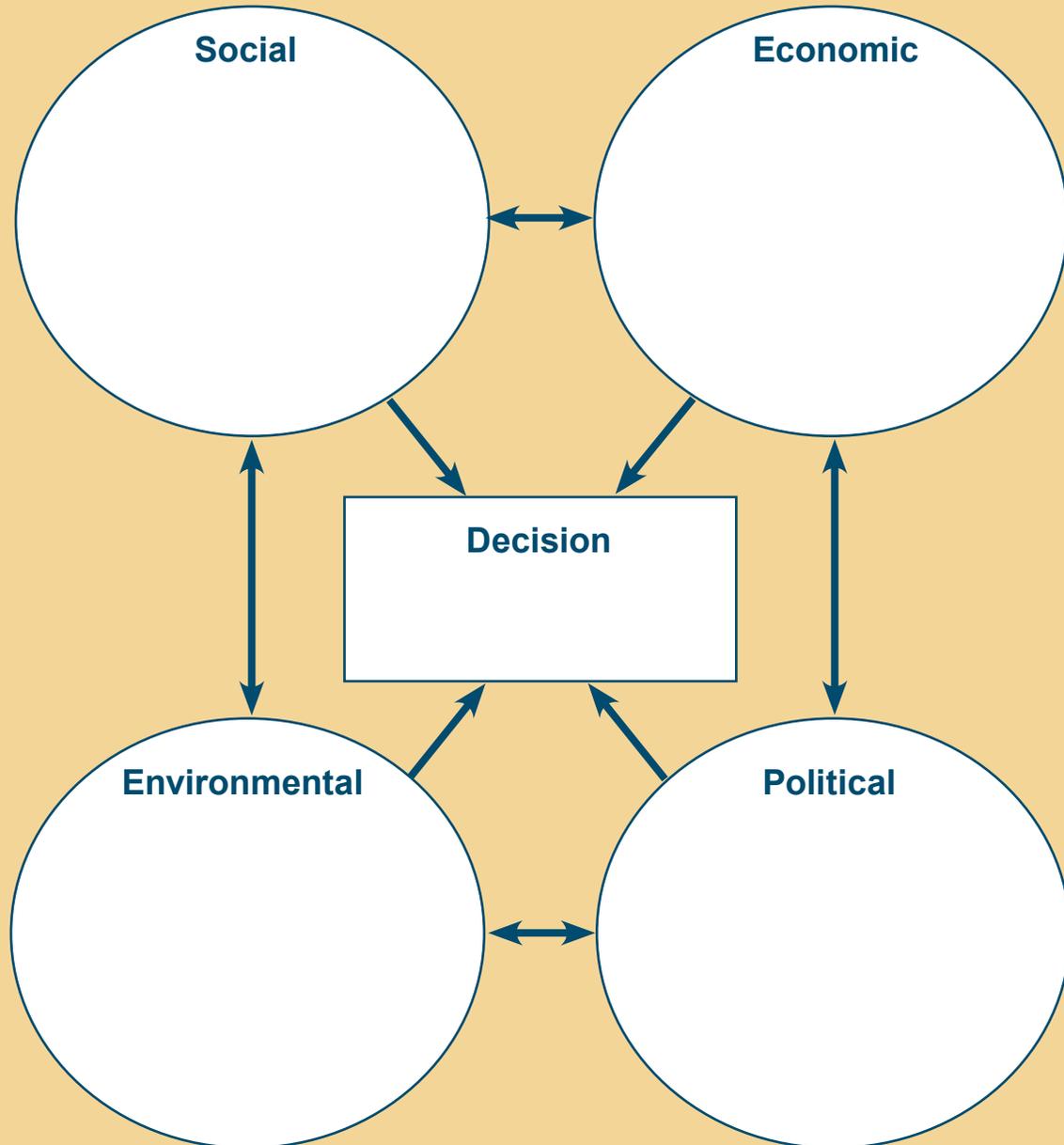
Lesson 5 Regulations and Rights

None required for this lesson.

Lesson 6 The Role of Advocacy in a Democracy

7	Advocacy in the Redwoods	8
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VA #1 Factors in Decision Making



VA #2 The Language of Cost-Benefit Analysis

Benefit: Something that is viewed as helpful, useful, or otherwise desirable. Some benefits are direct and others indirect.

Cost: The money, time, effort, loss, or sacrifice made to obtain something or achieve a goal.

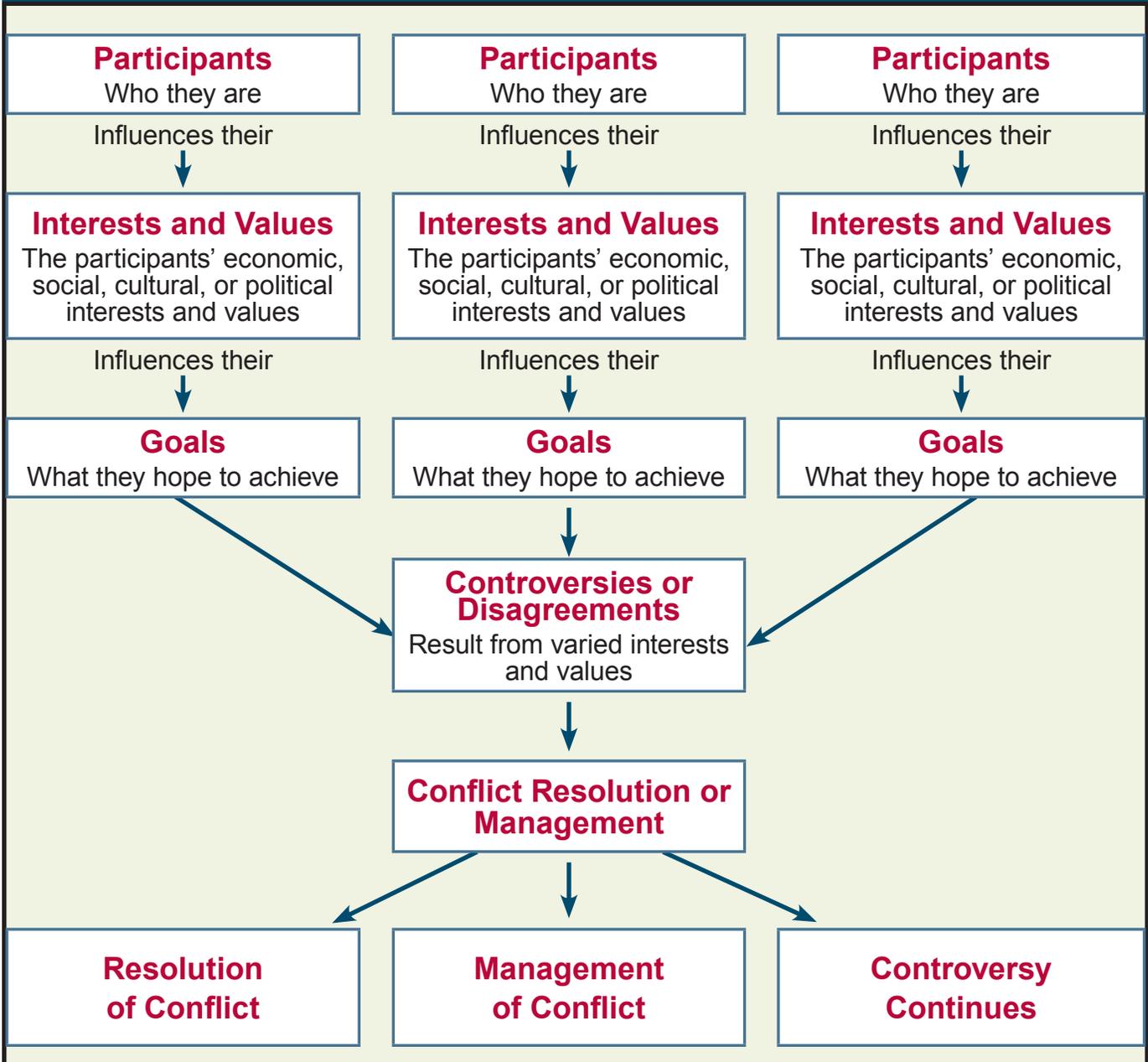
Opportunity Cost: The value of something that is given up when choosing one thing over another.

Trade-off: Something of value sacrificed or given up in order to get something else of value.

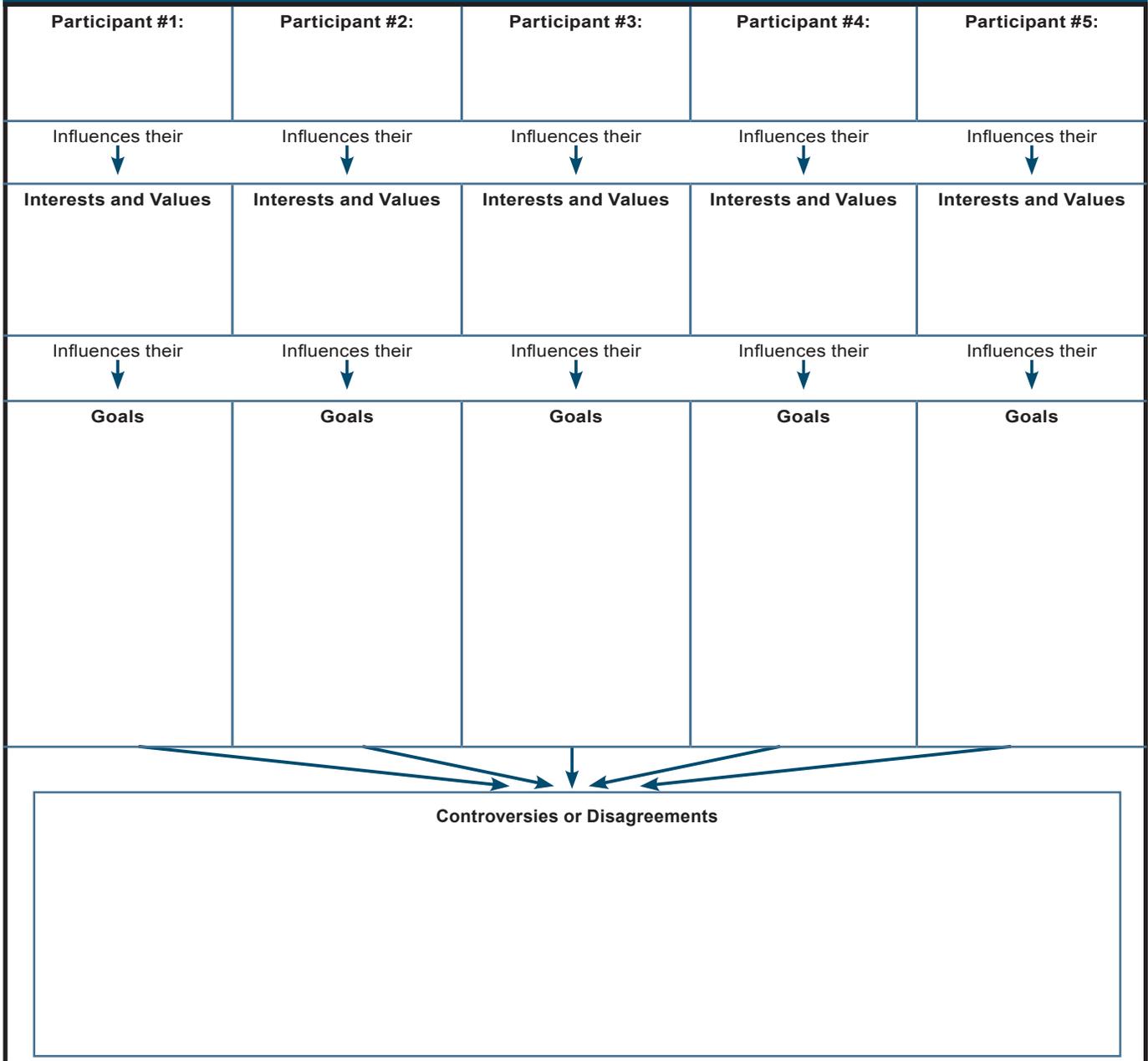
Valuing: To estimate or assign the worth, usefulness, or importance of something to human beings.

Willingness to pay: The amount a person is willing to pay or give up in order to make something possible.

VA #3 Controversy Analysis Model



VA #4 Healthy Forests Initiative Analysis



VA #5 Tips for Reading Primary Sources 1

Reading the Document

- Treat the document as a piece of evidence in an investigation (remember that you are the detective).
- Think about what you are reading—ask yourself questions as you go.
- Do not take things at face value—read between the lines.

Understanding the Context

- What are the qualifications of the author for writing about this topic?
- Who is the audience for this piece? How do you think the audience influenced what the author said?
- What does the author hope to accomplish? Is he or she trying to convince, entertain, provide factual information, or present multiple viewpoints?

VA #6 Tips for Reading Primary Sources 2

Looking for Clues

- Do the facts and opinions expressed seem to fit the time in history when this was written?
- Does the author do a good job of providing clear, factual information to support the points he or she makes?
- Are any facts or important perspectives left out? Do you think they were left out intentionally or does he or she not know about them? Where could you find them?

Studying and Summarizing the Evidence

- Determine where this material fits in your overall understanding of the topic. Describe any patterns or relationships you see.
- Assess the overall trustworthiness and reliability of the information. Do you believe it? If not, why?
- Create a list of questions that still need to be investigated.



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